



Case Docket No.: 65,008-061

Date: April 27, 2006

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Hughes et al.

Serial No.: 10/567,989

Filed: February 10, 2006

Group Art Unit: To Be Assigned

Examiner: To Be Assigned

**For: CONNECTION ASSEMBLY FOR
FLEXIBLE CONTAINERS**

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 CFR 1.97 AND 1.98

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.97 and 37 CFR 1.98 and in compliance with 37 CFR 1.56, Applicant hereby makes of record the patents, publications, or other information listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08A. Applicant respectfully requests that the Office consider the patents, publications, or other information and make these of record in the subject application.

The above identified patent application is being or was filed after June 30, 2003, such that copies of each cited U.S. Patent and each cited U.S. Patent Application Publication are not required to be submitted, see MPEP 609. However, copies of the remaining patents and publications, if any, are enclosed herewith. None of the patents, publications, or other information being provided discloses the inventive concepts claimed in the subject application.

U.S.S.N.: 10/567,989

Applicant's understanding of the relevance of German Publication No. DE 19609110 is found in the enclosed English language abstract. As for French Publication No. 552325, this publication appears to disclose a multi-piece ring for mounting to an opening of a bag.

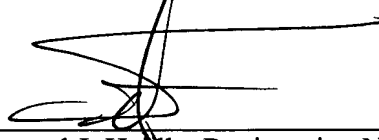
Also, submitted herewith, for the Examiner's convenience, is a search report from the corresponding PCT patent application which lists some of the patents, publications, or information on Form PTO/SB/08A and indicates the degree of relevancy found by the Patent Cooperation Treaty.

The Information Disclosure Statement transmitted herewith is being filed within three (3) months of the filing date of the application or before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. Accordingly, it is believed that no fee is due.

In addition to the above, the Commissioner is authorized to charge Howard & Howard Attorneys, P.C. Deposit Account No. 08-2789 for any additional fees or credit any overpayment.

Respectfully submitted,

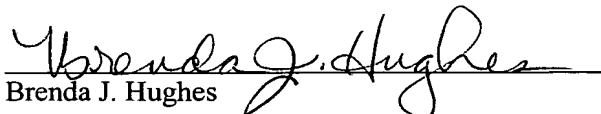
HOWARD & HOWARD ATTORNEYS, P.C.



Samuel J. Hardle, Registration No.: 42,619
The Pinehurst Office Center
39400 Woodward Avenue, Suite 101
Bloomfield Hills, Michigan 48304-5151
(248) 723-0334

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that the attached **Information Disclosure Statement, PTO/SB/08A, copies of foreign patents/publications, and return post card** are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to the **Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450**, on **April 27, 2006**.


Brenda J. Hughes

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO <div style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.2em;"> INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT </div> <div style="text-align: center; font-size: 0.8em;"> (use as many sheets as necessary) </div>				<div style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: 0.8em;"> Complete if Known </div> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;">Application Number</td> <td>10/567,989</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Filing Date</td> <td>February 10, 2006</td> </tr> <tr> <td>First Named Inventor</td> <td>Derek Hughes</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Art Unit</td> <td>To Be Assigned</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Examiner Name</td> <td>To Be Assigned</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Attorney Docket Number</td> <td>65,008-061</td> </tr> </table>		Application Number	10/567,989	Filing Date	February 10, 2006	First Named Inventor	Derek Hughes	Art Unit	To Be Assigned	Examiner Name	To Be Assigned	Attorney Docket Number	65,008-061
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Attorney Docket Number	65,008-061																
Sheet	1	of	2														

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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ₆
		Country Code ³	Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
		GB 2 039 842 A		8/20/1980	David J. Pye		
		DE 196 08 110 A1		9/4/1997	Undine Soltau		
		FR 552325		11/30/1956			

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard St.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard St. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached. This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 C.F.T. 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. **SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.**

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO		Complete if Known	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)		Application Number	10/567,989
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Sheet	2	of	2

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OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date**, Relevant Pages, Place of Publication***)

	PCT International Search Report Application No. PCT/GB 2004/003457; International Filing Date 8/11/2004; Applicant is EZI-Dock Systems Limited
	English Abstract for DE 196 08 110 A1
EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.	

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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